

than the rest, as if some one had trodden on it, the Volute was found; and in this way many were obtained in a living and beautiful state.

*On Loxosoma Kefersteini, a soft Bryozoan of the Bay of Naples.*  
By E. CLAPARÈDE.

In 1862 M. Claparède discovered on the coast of Normandy an epizoon of the worms of the genus *Notomastus*, which was shortly afterwards described by Professor Keferstein under the name of *Loxosoma singulare*. It is a Bryozoon, allied to *Pedicellina* (Sars), in which the anal extremity of the intestine pierces the wall of the pharynx, and opens outwards in the middle of the mouth. It is entirely soft, being destitute of the hard integuments so general among the Bryozoa.

The bay of Naples contains a great abundance of a second species of *Loxosoma*, measuring about half a millimetre in length (exclusive of the peduncle); it lives, attached by its peduncle, upon various animals, chiefly Bryozoa of the genus *Acamarchis*. M. Claparède names it *L. Kefersteini*.

The body is of an elongate-ovoid form, obliquely truncated in front by the buccal funnel, into which the ciliated tentacles are usually retracted under the abnormal conditions induced by observation. The funnel contracts so as to form a sort of diaphragm above the mouth and anus; but this always presents an aperture by which the water may penetrate freely into the cavity of the funnel, where it is constantly renewed by the movement of the cilia covering the inner surface of the wall of this cavity and the inner surface of the tentacles.

The tentacles appear to be fourteen in number; *L. singulare* has only ten. The digestive apparatus is arranged as in the species from the Channel; the lower extremity of the buccal funnel passes gradually into the œsophagus, which extends to the posterior extremity of the body, where it bends round and opens into a large greenish-yellow stomach. From this springs a short, cylindrical intestine, which pierces the wall of the pharynx to open externally in the middle of the mouth. The anal portion does not rise, as in *L. singulare*, like a kind of chimney, to the highest region of the buccal funnel.

The author thinks that this interpretation of the parts of the alimentary tube is not quite free from doubt, and that it is possible the part called by M. Keferstein and himself the mouth may be the anus, and *vice versâ*.

The very contractile peduncle is of variable length, but always much longer than in *L. singulare*. It terminates in a sort of sucking-disk; and six or seven bands of muscles run from one end of it to the other; these are separated from each other by the same number of rows of nuclei, 0·006 millim. in diameter.

The only individuals showing sexual organs were females, and in these the ovaries exactly resemble those of *L. singulare*. Most of the specimens were engaged in gemmiparous reproduction, the buds

being formed only at two points, one on the right, the other on the left of the posterior third of the body. This is also the case in *L. singulare*. The number of buds may reach five or six on each side; on attaining a certain size they detach themselves, and then adhere to the *Acamarchis* close to their parent.—*Annales des Sciences Naturelles*, série 5, tome viii. pp. 28–30.

#### *New British Fishes.*

Mr. William Edwards, of St. Mary-at-Hill, E.C., being at Hull when the fishing-smack 'Swallow,' of Hull, Capt. Thomas Sparks, arrived, which had been five weeks on a fishing voyage, having been blown over the north side of the Jutland Reef, observed that she had brought with her some specimens of *Chimæra monstrosa*, of *Sebastes viviparus*, and of the Black Centrina (*Spinax niger*). Mr. Edwards kindly sent and presented two specimens of *Chimæra* (male and female) and one of each of the other specimens to the British Museum. It is the first time that *Sebastes vivipara* and *Spinax niger* have been caught so near the English coast. They are interesting additions to the marine fauna.—J. E. GRAY.

#### *Cetacean Animals in Museums.*

Prof. Van Beneden has lately published a catalogue of the skeletons of Cetacea contained in different museums. According to his Catalogue, the British Museum contains the skeletons or parts of skeletons of sixty-one species of Cetacea, the Paris Museum thirty-four species, the Museum of Louvain (under M. Van Beneden's own direction) twenty-five species, the Museum of the College of Surgeons twenty-one species, the Museum of Leyden twenty-one species, and the Museum of Brussels nineteen species. These are the museums mentioned that have the largest number of species. The British Museum also contains twenty stuffed specimens of Cetaceans, belonging to eleven species, three of the specimens being whales, the rest dolphins and porpoises.

#### THE LATE PROFESSOR VAN DER HOEVEN.

Jan Van der Hoeven, the Professor of Zoology in the University of Leyden, who was born in Rotterdam on the 9th of March 1801, died at Leyden on the 11th of March 1868. He was the author of various papers on different branches of zoology. A list of no less than seventy-eight essays occurs under his name in Engelmann's 'Bibliotheca Zoologica.' He published a very good 'Handbook of Zoology,' which was translated for English students by Prof. Clark, of Cambridge.